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**BOROUGH OF BOSTON**  
**AND**  
**BOSTON**  
**PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and of the

**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**

**FOR THE YEAR 1954**



# MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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ALDERMAN J. HENRY MOUNTAIN, *Chairman.*

COUNCILLOR E. A. ARNOLD, *Vice-Chairman.*

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR W. A. MIDGLEY, J.P.

ALDERMAN C. W. FLEET.

„ F. PECK, J.P.

COUNCILLOR LT.-COL. G. A. GROUNDS, D.S.O., T.D., D.L.

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„ T. S. MEIR.

„ R. E. NICHOLSON.

„ J. P. ROE.

„ Dr. G. R. D. USMAR.

„ Mrs. E. M. VALENTINE.

„ E. B. WILLIS.

# STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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**Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer of Health :**

W. G. SMEATON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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**Chief Sanitary Inspector and Port Sanitary Officer :**

G. E. CHAMBERLAIN, M.S.I.A.

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**1st Additional Sanitary Inspector and Port Sanitary Officer :**

S. DAVEY, M.S.I.A.

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**2nd Additional Sanitary Inspector :**

G. FOX, M.S.I.A.

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**Chief Clerk :**

D. DADY

# BOROUGH OF BOSTON AND PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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To :—The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Boston.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for 1954.

The general state of the health of the Borough has continued to be satisfactory as is shown by the statistics on the following pages. The adjusted Birth Rate is 17.3 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 16.7 for the previous year, and the adjusted Death Rate is 10.3 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 9.9 for 1953. Both rates compare very favourably with those given for England and Wales for 1954 which were 15.2 and 11.3 respectively. Again no deaths have occurred from maternal causes.

The incidence of infectious diseases remained within satisfactory limits with the exception of an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery, details of which will be found later in the Report. Only two cases of Acute Poliomyelitis occurred in the Borough as against four in the previous year, and there were no resultant deaths from this disease.

Much additional work has fallen to the Department as a result of recent legislation. The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 requires local authorities to submit to the Ministry proposals for dealing with all the unfit houses in the area, and the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954 affected the decontrol of the meat industry. The difficulties caused by the decontrol of meat rationing are mentioned in the body of my Report, but it is pleasing to note that the Inter-departmental Committee on Slaughterhouses, first appointed by the

former Minister of Food, have now reported on the situation and made recommendations for (inter alia) minimum hygienic requirements for slaughterhouses and charges for meat inspection. It is hoped that in the near future Parliament will, by the appropriate legislation, provide a just and reasonable solution to satisfy both trade and public health interests.

My thanks are due to the Mayor and Members of the Council for their courtesy and encouragement, to Mr. G. E. Chamberlain, the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the staff of the Health Department for their excellent work during the year, and to all other Officials of the Council for their co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. G. SMEATON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
8, Bridge Street,  
BOSTON, Lincs.

August, 1955.

# Part I

## SECTION A

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

#### GENERAL STATISTICS:—

Area (in acres) ... ..	3,259
Home Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1954) ... ..	24,420
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1954 (according to the Rate Books) ... ..	7,700
Rateable Value ... ..	£145,441
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£565
Estimated average number of Persons per Inhabited House ... ..	3.2
Estimated average number of Persons per Acre ... ..	7.5
Average number of Inhabited Houses per Acre ... ..	2.4

#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ETC.:—

The social conditions of the area have remained unchanged during the year.

#### VITAL STATISTICS:—

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude) ... ..	17.7
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (adjusted) ... ..	17.3
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... ..	13.7
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude) ... ..	10.6
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (adjusted) ... ..	10.3
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) ... ..	Nil
Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age:—	
(a) All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	30.1
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	27.6
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	58.8



### Death Rates of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—

(a) All infants, per 1,000 live births ... ..	23.1
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	20.1
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	58.8

## OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS

In the following comments on the Vital Statistics both the crude birth and death rates are given together with the rates after adjustment by the Comparability Factors. These factors have been supplied by the Registrar-General, and are intended to afford a means of adjustment to allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas. Consequently, the adjusted birth and death rates enable a more accurate comparison to be made with the corresponding rates in other areas.

It is also emphasised that undue significance should not be attached to rates which are based on very small numbers (e.g. infant mortality) and that a comparison of such rates with those in other areas, or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

### POPULATION :—

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1954 was 24,420, an increase of 90 on the figure given for the previous year which was 24,330. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 173.

### BIRTHS :—

A total of 432 live births (216 males, 216 females) were registered during 1954. This figure gives a crude birth rate of 17.7 and an adjusted rate of 17.3 per 1,000 of the population, an increase on the rates for 1953 which were 17.0 and 16.7 respectively. The rate for the whole of England and Wales for 1954 was 15.2.

The number of illegitimate live births was 34 (15 males, 19 females) which is 7.9% of the total live births. The total illegitimate live births in 1953 was 24.

### STILLBIRTHS :—

There were 6 stillbirths registered (6 males, nil females) giving a stillbirth rate of 13.7 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths, as compared with 21.3 in 1953. The rate for England and Wales for 1954 was 23.4.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY :—

There were no deaths under this heading in 1954.



## INFANT MORTALITY :—

There were 13 deaths of infants under one year of age (8 males, 5 females), the resulting death rate per 1,000 live births being 30.1 as compared with 33.8 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1954 was 25.5.

The total number of infant deaths under 4 weeks of age was 10 (5 males, 5 females), giving a death rate of 23.1 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 19.3 in 1953.

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES :—

The actual number of deaths allocated to the Borough after deduction of those occurring in non-residents and addition of deaths of residents which occurred outside the Borough was 259. The resultant crude death rate of 10.6 per 1,000 of the population is slightly lower than that for the previous year, namely 10.7. However, as the result of a change in the Comparability Factor, the adjusted death rate of 10.3 per 1,000 of the population shows an increase on the corresponding rate for 1953 which was 9.9.

The figure for the whole of England and Wales for 1954 was 11.3.

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOSTON M.B., 1954.

No.	Cause of Death	Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	3	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	1
3.	Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—
4.	Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8.	Measles ... ..	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	2	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	6	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	8	9
15.	Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	—	—
16.	Diabetes ... ..	—	4
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	21	26
18.	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	22	14
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	—	—
20.	Other heart disease ... ..	19	26
21.	Other circulatory disease ... ..	5	4
22.	Influenza ... ..	—	—
23.	Pneumonia ... ..	3	3
24.	Bronchitis ... ..	5	7

No.	Cause of Death	Males	Females
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	3	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ... ..	1	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations ... ..	3	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	13	15
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	4	—
34.	All other accidents ... ..	5	2
35.	Suicide ... ..	1	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	1	—
ALL CAUSES		129	130

## METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

I am indebted to N. H. Middlebrook, Esq., Meteorologist, for the following summary of the weather conditions of the area for the past two years as recorded by him at the Meteorological Station, Freiston Road, Boston.

	1954	1953
Rain days ... ..	197	153
Mean humidity at 0900 hrs. G.M.T. ... ..	86%	87%
Mean day and night temperatures ... ..	48.8°	49.8°
Mean maximum temperature ... ..	55.6°	56.9°
Mean minimum temperature ... ..	42.1°	42.8°
No. of days with maximum temperatures 70° or over ... ..	31	42
No. of days with maximum temperatures 80° or over ... ..	1	6
Thunderstorms ... ..	17	20
Ground frosts ... ..	85	88
Fog at 9.00 a.m. observation ... ..	12	26
Snow or sleet, days of ... ..	24	15
Gales, days of ... ..	18	7

The total rainfall for the year was 28.46" against an average of 24.18". Excess over average 4.28".

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS :—1954 will be long remembered for its extreme wetness, and its lack of sunshine. There have been only four years since 1916 which were wetter—1916, 1927, 1931 and 1937. Since the beginning of June there has not been one week of consecutive fine weather.

## SECTION B

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### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES :—

Advantage has again been taken of the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Lincoln. Samples of ice cream and water have been regularly submitted for examination and further details of this work will be found in Sections C and E.

The Laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, have continued to carry out chemical examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE :—

This service is provided and maintained by the Holland County Council through the County Transport Department, Allan House, Carlton Road.

Four first line ambulances, including one of the most modern type, and five sitting case cars are based in the Borough. In addition an ambulance is reserved solely for the conveyance of infectious cases.

#### NURSING IN THE HOME :—

This service is provided by the Local Health Authority in accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

#### PUBLIC MORTUARY :—

The Public Mortuary is managed by the Borough Engineer's Department. I am satisfied that the Mortuary is properly conducted and the facilities adequate.

#### HOSPITALS :—

All Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Details of the facilities available in Boston and District are as follows :—

Boston General Hospital — Acute General.  
London Road Hospital — Orthopædic and Acute General.  
Boston Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium — Infectious and  
Chest Diseases.  
Wyberton West Hospital — Medical and Maternity.  
Woodlands Court, Kirton — Aged Sick.  
Freiston Hall Children's Hospital — Sick Children.  
Bargate Physiotherapy Centre, Boston — Physiotherapy.

#### THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES:—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

#### TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS:—

The Chest Clinic, Venereal Diseases Clinic and Orthopædic Clinic are held at the London Road Hospital.

Clinics are held at the Health Centre, London Road, for Ophthalmic, Dental, Minor Ailments, Speech Therapy and Child Guidance.

The Cleansing Station continues to function at the Health Centre, and further details with regard to the arrangements for the treatment of Scabies will be found in Section F of this Report.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47. — REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION:—

No new cases requiring action under the above Section came to notice during the year.

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES :—

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946, these services are provided by the Holland County Council.

## SECTION C

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

#### WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr. D. H. Ball, Water Engineer, for the following report on the Borough Water Supply:—

## 1. STATISTICS.

(A) **Rainfall.** The rainfall recorded at Revesby Waterworks during the year was 29.76" as against 24.20" in 1953, but deducting evaporation the "run-off" was 14.46" in 1954. Average figures for Rainfall and Evaporation at Revesby are 24.94" and 14.10" respectively. Rainfall at Fordington was 30.20" as against 22.67" in 1953.

(B) **Volume of water supplied from Revesby and Fordington and received in bulk from Boston R.D.C. with comparisons for 1953.**

Year.	Thousands of gallons.				
	Revesby.	Fordington.	from Boston R.D.C.	Total.	average G.P.D.
1954	262,134	180,418	54,568	497,120	1,362
1953	243,846	205,569	6,805	456,220	1,250
Increase +					
Decrease —	+ 18,288	— 25,151	+ 47,763	+ 40,900	+ 112

As a matter of interest, the average daily consumption in 1939 was 674,000 gallons.

A waste detection scheme is in operation for the whole Statutory Area of Supply.

### (C) Pressures.

Pressures in the town have definitely improved, arising from the booster plant installation at Horncastle Road and general improvements in the distribution system, but despite this it must be admitted that pressures, especially during peak periods, are sub-standard. Consumers generally are always encouraged to install the maximum amount of storage possible. The availability of additional water in bulk from the mains of the Boston R.D.C. and poor summer weather eased the strain on the Corporation's sources at Revesby and Fordington.

### (D) Extensions of Mains.

As will be seen from the list of main extensions and renewals, activity continues in the Water Department. A large number of new services have been connected, and a considerable amount of internal work undertaken by local plumbers, all to the benefit of public health. Modernisation of the distribution system continues and special attention is always directed to housing needs in the Borough and Rural Districts, and rural water main extensions to meet agricultural requirements within the Council's Statutory Area of Supply.



## WATER MAINS LAID IN BOROUGH DURING 1954

Location,	Dia. & type of pipe.	Length. yds.	Remarks.
1. <b>Corporation Housing Estate.</b>			
Woad Farm	4" A.C. 1½" A.C.	254 284	} Part site develop- ment including 3 Cul-de-Sac.
2. <b>Private Estate.</b>	4" A.C.	157	} Part site develop- ment.
Bayswood Avenue (off Wyberton Low Road)			
3. <b>Freiston Road.</b>	4" A.C. 4" C.I.	65 175	} Duplicate main to meet housing needs, etc.
4. <b>Robin Hood's Walk.</b>	6" A.C.	120	do.
5. <b>Tower Street.</b>	4" A.C.	200	} Duplicate main for improvement.
		<u>1,255</u>	

### Renewals

1. <b>Corpus Christi Lane.</b>	3" C.I.	40	Replaces old 1½"
2. <b>Tower Street.</b>	3" A.C.	100	" " 1½"/2"
3. <b>Hilda Street.</b>	4" A.C.	75	" " 1½"/2"
4. <b>Freiston Road.</b>	4" A.C.	120	" " 2"
		<u>335</u>	

### EXTENSIONS IN RURAL AREA 1954

1. <b>Spilsby R.D.</b>			
Parish of Frithville Cowbridge	4" A.C.	96	
2. <b>Boston R.D.</b>			
Parish of Fishtoft			
(a) Cowbridge	4" A.C.	144	
(b) Eastwood Road	4" C.I.	170	
3. <b>Spilsby R.D.</b>			
Parish of Sibsey			
Hurn Road	3" A.C.	320	
		<u>730</u>	

### (E) Quality of Water.

(1)a The water supply of the area has been, in my opinion, satisfactory throughout the year.

- (1)b The quantity of water available has been satisfactory. A bulk supply of up to 250,000 gallons per day is now available from the mains of the Boston R.D.C. as required.
- (2) Monthly samples of the raw water and treated water passing to supply at Revesby and Fordington are submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical and bacteriological analysis. No adverse report has been received. Copies of all reports are submitted to the Medical Officer of Health, who in turn supplies me with copies of reports received in respect of samples taken from the town mains at frequent intervals. It is hoped that one day iron removal and softening plant will be installed at Fordington.
- (3) The water has no plumbo-solvent action. No form of contamination detected.
- (4) The proportion of the houses in the Borough supplied by standpipes and outside taps is relatively small and mainly confined to old parts of the town.

1% of the approx. 7,000 houses are without a piped water supply. For the purpose of this report, standpipes and yard taps are treated as piped supplies.

(Signed) D. H. BALL,  
Borough Water Engineer.

18th February, 1955.

#### **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE :—**

(a) Sewers completed to serve an additional 160 houses on the Woad Farm Housing Estate.

(b) New sewers laid in :—

1. Corpus Christi Lane.
2. Bargate (from the New Poultry Market to Cheyney Street).
3. Oxford Street to river (adjacent to Messrs. Gostelow's Workshop).

(c) Routine maintenance and sewer cleansing carried out.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE SCHEMES :—

During the year the system of refuse collection has been re-organised and collection is now weekly instead of fortnightly. Two S.D. Fore and Aft Tipplers have been purchased. The vehicles have a capacity of 16.4 cub. yards and cost £2,375 each. Disposal is by controlled tipping and approx. 20 acres of the Old Golf Course has now been reclaimed and let.

The salvage of waste food was discontinued owing to lack of demand but the salvage of waste paper, rags, tins and other metals continues.

In November a Bristol 22 Hydraulic Angledozer was purchased for use on the Refuse Dump. This will provide for more efficient disposal and covering down of the refuse.

Costs for the year ending 31st March, 1954, were :—

Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	£	8,855
Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...		2,124
								<hr/>
								10,979
Income from Trade Refuse	...	...	...					202
								<hr/>
								£10,777
								<hr/>
Salvage costs	...	...	...	...	...	...	£	6,896
Salvage income	...	...	...	...	...	...	£	7,595
Total refuse collected	...	...	...	...	...	...		11,812 tons.
Weight per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...		26.47 cwts.
Net cost per ton	...	...	...	...	...	...		17/1d.
Net cost per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	...		£412

## SWIMMING BATHS :—

At frequent intervals throughout the season samples of water were submitted for analysis. In all 42 samples were taken and with 7 exceptions the water proved to be of a fairly satisfactory quality. However, in the absence of filtration plant, heavy chlorination is still necessary to ensure that the water is of a satisfactory bacteriological standard, and this has at times caused discomfort to the bathers.

The provision of new baths or the installation of modern purification plant at the existing baths remains an urgent necessity.

## MEASURES AGAINST INFESTATION :—

### (a) Rodent Control :—

The year has passed without the discovery of any notable infestation. The use of " Warfarin " as almost the sole poison

for surface infestations has proved very satisfactory except that the number of bodies recovered has been very small. Regular sewer treatments have continued and the number of infested manholes continues to decrease.

The following table gives comparative figures for the last three years.

Year.	No. of premises treated.	No. of bodies recovered.
1952	1050	1215
1953	968	448
1954	1051	427

(b) **Verminous Houses :—**

The number of premises treated for vermin is as follows :—

Bed Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Cockroaches, Ants, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52

**SANITARY INSPECTION IN THE BOROUGH :—**

The following information has been supplied by Mr. G. E. Chamberlain, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also responsible for the preparation of the remainder of this section, Section D and much of Section E.

During March Mr. G. Fox, the pupil sanitary inspector, passed the qualifying examination and as it had become evident that additional qualified staff was necessary, the Council agreed to his appointment as an additional sanitary inspector. In the second half of the year, following the decontrol of slaughtering, there was an enormous increase in the amount of meat inspection to be undertaken and by the year's end it was obvious that the routine work of the sanitary inspectors had perforce been neglected. The appointment of a third additional sanitary inspector was therefore recommended and agreed to but the appointment was not made until April, 1955.

**INSPECTIONS :—**

**Dwellings.**

Inspected under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	131
Inspected under the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	540
				—671

**Re-inspections.**

Under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	307
Under the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	345
				—652

Overcrowding ... ..	93
Smoke Observations ... ..	26
Offensive Trades ... ..	14
Common Lodging Houses ... ..	1
Moveable Dwellings ... ..	119
Butchers' Shops ... ..	90
Prepared Food Premises ... ..	68
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	9
Restaurant Kitchens ... ..	28
Bakehouses ... ..	44
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	30
Food Shops and Premises ... ..	114
Market Stalls ... ..	117
Food Poisoning Investigations ... ..	13
Food Poisoning Revisits ... ..	14
Dysentery Investigations ... ..	257
Dysentery Revisits ... ..	980
Factories ... ..	51
Dairies ... ..	6
Slaughterhouse and Meat Depot ... ..	2116
Rat Infestation ... ..	15
Port Sanitary—Vessels Inspected ... ..	150
Pet Animals Act Inspections ... ..	6
Infectious Diseases ... ..	19
Miscellaneous ... ..	59
<hr/>	
TOTAL	5,762
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### Samples Taken.

Water	
Public Supply ... ..	85
Swimming Baths ... ..	42
Other ... ..	1
<hr/>	
128	
Ice Cream ... ..	33
Iced Lollies ... ..	3
Mussels ... ..	128
Faeces ... ..	1102
Miscellaneous ... ..	4

### Drains and Sewers.

Drains Tested ... ..	15
Drains Cleared ... ..	14
Sewers Cleared ... ..	351

# OFFICE WORK:—

Informal Notices.	Served.	Complied with.
Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	58	33
Public Health Act, 1936 ... ..	30	38
Dustbin ... ..	55	21

Statutory Notices.	Served.	Complied with.
Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 9 ... ..	7	2
Public Health Act, 1936 ... ..	56	43
Dustbin ... ..	5	3
Conversions ... ..	8	2

# PREMISES DISINFECTED:—

Scarlet Fever ... ..	I
Tuberculosis ... ..	2
Cancer ... ..	2

# NUISANCES REPORTED AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED:—

Total number of complaints received ... ..	471
The following are details of complaints received and remedied:—	
Defective Dustbins ... ..	2
General Housing Complaints ... ..	60
Defective W.C.'s ... ..	8
Fleas, beetles, etc. ... ..	21
Ants ... ..	7
Rats and Mice ... ..	126
Choked drains ... ..	14
Choked sewers ... ..	175
Flooded cellars ... ..	1
Smoke nuisance ... ..	2
Other nuisances ... ..	26
Defective yard and passage paving ... ..	3
Cesspools ... ..	1
Overcrowding ... ..	3
Miscellaneous ... ..	22

# NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS :—

Factories ... ..	3
Fish and Poultry Dealers ... ..	1

# DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR :—

Defect	No. found	No. Remedied	
		(a) Informally	(b) By Statutory Action
Roofs .. .. .	33	16	2
Chimneys .. .. .	13	5	—
Pointing of external walls .. .. .	7	4	—
Brickwork .. .. .	10	3	1
Gutters and down pipes .. .. .	27	12	1
Boundary walls or fences .. .. .	4	3	—
Wall plaster .. .. .	32	16	1
Ceiling plaster .. .. .	27	7	—
Doors and door frames .. .. .	13	6	—
Windows and window frames .. .. .	25	9	—
Sash cords .. .. .	18	6	—
Floors (solid) .. .. .	4	—	1
Floor boards .. .. .	16	5	1
Skirtings .. .. .	4	3	—
Firegrates or ranges .. .. .	29	13	—
Treads and risers .. .. .	4	1	—
W.C. roofs .. .. .	6	1	—
W.C. walls .. .. .	1	1	—
W.C. doors and door frames .. .. .	7	2	—
W.C. pans .. .. .	12	4	1
W.C. flushing cisterns .. .. .	15	2	2
W.C. flushing pipes .. .. .	12	3	2
Yard and passage paving .. .. .	18	2	3
Drains .. .. .	10	4	1
Sewers .. .. .	9	—	8
Dustbins .. .. .	54	21	3
Water supply .. .. .	5	1	—
Sinks .. .. .	5	1	—
Sink waste pipes .. .. .	5	1	—
Yard Gullies .. .. .	5	1	—
Cesspools .. .. .	—	1	—

## Other Items

### WATER :—

73 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and only one fell below the standard of “satisfactory” and this was rectified by a short flushing of the main. Samples were submitted monthly for chemical analysis and no adverse report was received.

The following table classifies the results of the samples examined bacteriologically.

Class I	Class II	Class III (suspicious)	Class IV (unsatisfactory)
71	1	1	Nil

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES :—

There is only one registered common lodging house in the Borough and this is occupied almost entirely by permanent residents. Conditions in the house are fairly satisfactory and no complaints concerning it have been received.

### FACTORIES :—

The following tables give particulars of the visits made to factories during 1954. The number of defects found was small and in no case was it necessary to resort to statutory action to remedy the defects.

### Inspections.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	16	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	124	4	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	18	Nil	Nil
Total ..	158	4	Nil



## Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	12	11	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	4	Nil	5	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total .. ..	21	15	Nil	5	Nil

### OUTWORKERS' PREMISES:—

There are now only four outworkers in the Borough, two being engaged on pea picking, and two making wearing apparel. Although the premises on which the pea picking is carried out are clean, I consider that all outwork in connection with food preparation should be prohibited.

## SECTION D

### HOUSING

Number of Houses erected in the Borough during the year:—

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	50	17	Nil
(b) By the Council ... ..	64	6	Nil

Number under construction at the end of 1954 :—

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise ...	21	4	Nil
(b) By the Council ... ..	91	4	Nil



## INSPECTIONS:—

### 1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	726
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	1345
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	27
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	81
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	26
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	700

### 2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	60
--	----

### 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

#### A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	7
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By owners ... ..	2
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil

#### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	61
-----	---	----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	38
(b) By local authority in default of owners	2
C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	Nil
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	Nil
In addition, action in respect of unfit houses was taken as follows :—	
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted not to use the house until it had been rendered fit ... ..	4
Closing Orders made under Section 10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 ... ..	1
D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	1

## SLUM CLEARANCE.

The programme that was started last year was continued, and Compulsory Purchase Orders were made in respect of 14 properties in Mill Hill and 18 houses in Reform Place. The Clearance Order made last year in respect of Goodbarn's Yard was confirmed and the Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of 18 houses in Queen Street and George Street was confirmed with slight modification. The rehousing of the occupants of the Lincoln Lane Clearance Area was almost completed.

### 4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

No attempt has been made at a complete revision of the overcrowding records, but a piecemeal examination of the worst cases while investigating Council house applications reveals that very few dwellings are overcrowded according to the 1936 Housing Act standard.

### 5.—Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, Section 26—Certificates of Disrepair.

One application for a certificate of disrepair was received and a certificate was issued.

# SECTION E

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION:—

On the 1st July the Ministry of Food relinquished the control of slaughtering and it passed into the hands of private butchers as the Council had rejected the recommendation of the Public Health Committee that the Corporation should manage such slaughter-houses as would be necessary to provide adequate facilities. As a result slaughtering during the second half of the year has been carried on in eleven premises which, while a great improvement on those in use in 1939, are generally of a makeshift nature. The amount of stock slaughtered has increased enormously, and at the end of the year was still increasing, while the shortage of slaughtermen and the desire to " catch the market " has lead to a great deal of evening and week-end work. This has placed a considerable strain upon the meat inspectors who, in an attempt to provide a 100% service have had to work a great deal of overtime. The engagement of another inspector has alleviated the position slightly, but this has added considerably to the cost of the service, and it seems inequitable that the ratepayers of Boston should have to bear the burden of the cost of inspecting meat, the vast majority of which is consumed outside the Borough.

The following tables give details of the amount of meat inspected and condemned and illustrate the great increase in this work since 1st July.

#### Meat Destroyed

	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Carcases whole with offal .. .. .	84	12	156	252
Forequarters .. ..	15	Nil	1	16
Hindquarters .. ..	1	Nil	2	3
Plucks .. .. .	Nil	80	1356	1436
Heads and Tongues ..	394	80	472	946
Livers .. .. .	677	11	Nil	688
Lungs .. .. .	345	Nil	Nil	345
Intestines .. .. .	81	1	116	198
Miscellaneous .. ..	58	Nil	3103	3161
Meat .. .. .	2cwts. 35lbs.	59lbs.	1cwt. 68lbs.	4cwts. 50lbs.

## Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed and insp. Jan.—June .. .. .	632	200	37	3626	2788
No. insp. July—Dec. ..	3076	721	892	5682	15410
Total No. inspected ..	3708	921	929	9308	18198
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis :</b>					
Whole carcases con- demned .. .. .	11	14	10	12	150
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	742		9	93	1407
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	16.6		2.0	1.1	8.5
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>					
Whole carcases con- demned .. .. .	19	30	—	—	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	510		—	—	467
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	12.1		—	—	2.6

### MILK AND OTHER FOODS:—

Regular inspections are carried out of all premises dealing in food and of places where food is prepared. Generally a satisfactory standard is maintained, but few premises reach a very high standard. In this respect the customer can have far more influence than the sanitary inspector by refusing to trade where conditions are unsatisfactory or staff are slipshod.

### ACTION UNDER REGULATION 20, MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

During April a report was received from the County Sanitary Officer that a sample of milk from a producer in the Borough had given a positive reaction to a biological test for tubercle bacilli. A notice was served under regulation 20 and remained in force until the 22nd June when it was withdrawn following the receipt of a satisfactory report from the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The service of the notice did not interrupt the sale of the milk as it was possible immediately to make arrangements with a local dairy for the pasteurisation of the milk.

## FOOD POISONING :—

There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning in the Borough.

Six isolated cases were notified during the year, three of which were confirmed. No suspected foodstuffs were recovered for examination, but from samples of faeces the infecting agents were revealed as Salmonella Anatum, Salmonella Typhi-murium and Salmonella Saint Paul.

## BYE-LAWS UNDER SECTION 15, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 :—

The enforcement of the bye-laws has not created any difficulties, such breaches as have been observed being dealt with by verbal or written warnings.

## ICE-CREAM :—

During the year five more premises were registered for the sale of ice cream, but none for the manufacture. The majority of these sell only wrapped ice cream and as far as possible the sale of unwrapped ice cream is discouraged.

The results of samples submitted for bacteriological examination are given in the following table :—

Samples examined by the Methylene Blue Test.

Number of samples submitted ... ..	33
Number of samples classified Grade I ... ..	27
Number of samples classified Grade II ... ..	2
Number of samples classified Grade III ... ..	2
Number of samples classified Grade IV ... ..	2

This represents the highest proportion of Grade I samples obtained in any year and it may be significant that this occurred during a very cool summer.

## SECTION F

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### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table I shows the total number of infectious diseases notified during the year, the numbers admitted to hospital, and the total number of deaths.

**Chicken Pox :—**This was the most common notifiable disease which occurred in the Borough during the year and 248 cases were notified as compared with 180 in the previous year.



**Dysentery** :—Towards the end of June an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurred in the Borough. Initial investigations were centred on the Day Nursery where certain children were reported as having symptoms, and the results of specimens of faeces submitted for analysis revealed a number of confirmed cases. About the same time further cases were discovered amongst pupils attending the St. Botolph's School and a little later cases of an apparently isolated nature began to be reported throughout the town.

The peak of the epidemic was reached during July and August and, whilst cases continued to be reported for investigation during the months that followed, only a few persistent cases were outstanding at the end of the year.

During the course of investigations in connection with the outbreak 163 households were visited and specimens of faeces were collected from 353 persons, 129 of whom were positive cases. The total number of specimens submitted for examination was 1,069.

**Measles** :—A total of 47 cases were notified during the year, 43 of which occurred in December. The number of cases notified during the epidemic in 1953 was 1,216.

**Whooping Cough** :—Notifications showed an increase, and 117 cases were reported as compared with 87 in 1953. However, the majority of the cases were reported during the period January-March, and from July onwards not a single case was notified.

**Pneumonia** :—Only 21 cases were notified as compared with 68 in 1953. Three cases were admitted to hospital.

**Scarlet Fever** :—During the year 26 notifications were received, 2 cases being admitted to the Isolation Hospital. The number of notifications received in 1953 was 21.

**Acute Poliomyelitis** :—Two paralytic cases were notified as compared with 4 in 1953. Both patients were females aged 7 years and 39 years and, following removal to hospital, the diagnosis in each case was later confirmed.

There were no resultant deaths.

**Scabies** :—The number of cases notified was 2, the same as in the previous year. Both patients were adults for whom treatment was provided at the Cleansing Station.

If necessary, the Holland County Council undertakes the treatment of cases of Scabies occurring in the Borough, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the Corporation. Should medical practitioners request treatment for patients, details of notifications are immediately passed to the County Council thus ensuring that infected persons receive early treatment.

Table I.  
Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1954

Disease	Cases Notified	Confirmed Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Acute Poliomyelitis : (Paralytic) .. ..	2	2	2	Nil
Chicken Pox .. ..	248	248	Nil	Nil
Dysentery .. ..	137	136	2	Nil
Erysipelas .. ..	1	1	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning .. ..	6	3	1	Nil
Measles .. ..	47	47	Nil	Nil
Meningococcal Infection .. ..	1	1	Nil	Nil
Paratyphoid Fevers .. ..	1	Nil	1	Nil
Pneumonia .. ..	21	21	3	Nil
Scabies .. ..	2	2	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever .. ..	26	26	2	Nil
Whooping Cough .. ..	117	117	3	Nil

#### TUBERCULOSIS:—

Cases notified within the Borough come under the control of Dr. A. M. Forrest, Chest Physician, Central Lincolnshire Chest Unit.

Table II.  
TUBERCULOSIS.  
Showing New Cases and Deaths.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	3	—	2	—	—	—	1
25—35	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
55—65	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total	5	7	5	6	3	1	—	1



## IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA:—

All arrangements in connection with immunisation within the Borough are under the control of the Holland County Council.

The following figures, supplied by the County Health Department, give details of the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	169
1 and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	205
5—14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
							—440
Number of Booster Injections	...	...	...	...	...	...	287

The percentage of children immunised in relation to the child population is as follows :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.7%
1 and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	82.0%
5—14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	85.5%

These figures are more encouraging than those for the previous year. Parents are again strongly recommended to take full advantage of the County Council's immunisation scheme, for although there have been no cases of Diphtheria in the Borough for many years this should not lull the public into a false sense of security. It is only with continued immunisation that this satisfactory position can be maintained.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND OF THE  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

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**PART II**  
**BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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Year ended 31st December, 1954.

# BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

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To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses  
of the Borough of Boston,  
being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted by  
the Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health Administration of the Port of Boston during the year ended 31st December, 1954. In conformity with Ministry of Health requirements the information requested under some Sections and which has not varied from the preceding year is indicated "No Change."

As will be seen from a perusal of the Report, the Port has again had a year of considerable activity and trade continues to flourish. Although the number of foreign vessels arriving decreased slightly from 565 in 1953 to 552 in 1954, coastwise traffic for the same period increased from 380 to 440 with the result that the total number of vessels entering the Dock increased from 945 in 1953 to 992 in 1954. There has been little change in the general trade of the Port or in the principal ports from which ships arrived.

The Port of Boston is now listed as an approved Port for the issue of Deratting Exemption Certificates under Regulation 19 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, and 23 such certificates were issued during the year under review.

Once again I can report that there has been a complete absence of infectious diseases, and in this respect I am satisfied that existing arrangements are adequate should any outbreak occur.

In conclusion, I should like to express my thanks to all concerned for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

W. G. SMEATON,  
Port Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
8, Bridge Street,  
BOSTON, Lincs.  
February, 1955.

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### SECTION I—Staff

#### TABLE A

— NO CHANGE —

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### SECTION II—Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

#### TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign ports	552	141,818	12	92	Nil
Coastwise	440	90,263	Nil	55	Nil
Total	992	232,081	12	147	Nil

## SECTION III—Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ..	<p>Number of passengers INWARDS : 133.</p> <p>Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 146.</p>
CARGO TRAFFIC ..	<p>Principal IMPORTS : Grain, Deals, Battens and Boards, Sleepers, Telegraph Poles, Flour, Feeding Stuffs, Potatoes, Fertilisers, Fruit and Vegetables, Bulbs, Petroleum, Basic Slag, Paper, Spelter, Clay, Mussels and Fish, Steel Bars, etc., Pig Iron.</p> <p>Principal EXPORTS : Grain, Potatoes, Baled Straw, Potato Flour, Pig Iron, Feeding Stuffs, General, Coal.</p>
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive ..	<p>BALEARIC ISLANDS : Palma.</p> <p>BELGIUM : Antwerp, Brussels, Ghent, Ostend.</p> <p>DENMARK : Copenhagen, Esbjerg, Fredericia, Nykobing.</p> <p>FINLAND : Hamina, Haukipudas, Kasko, Kemi, Kotka, Mantyluoto, Rafso, Raumo.</p> <p>FRANCE : Bordeaux, Caen, Dieppe, Dunkirk.</p> <p>GERMANY : Bremen, Emden, Hamburg, Kiel.</p> <p>HOLLAND : Amsterdam, Delfzyl, Hansweert, Harlingen, Maasluis Rotterdam, Wormerveer, Ymuiden, Zaandam.</p> <p>MOROCCO : Casablanca.</p> <p>NORWAY : Christiansand, Oslo, Trondheim.</p> <p>POLAND : Danzig, Gdynia, Stettin.</p> <p>PORTUGAL : Leixoes.</p> <p>RUSSIA : Igarka, Kem, Leningrad, Petchora.</p> <p>SPAIN : Almeria, Gandja, Valencia.</p> <p>SWEDEN : Burea, Gefle, Gothenburg, Halmstad, Kalmar, Karlskrona, Kopmanholmen, Nykoping, Oskarshamn, Skelleftea, Stugsund, Sundsvall.</p>

## SECTION IV—Inland barge traffic.

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

## SECTION V—Water Supply

1. **Source of supply for**
  - (a) **The District.**
  - (b) **Shipping.**

— NO CHANGE —
2. **Reports of tests for contamination.**

— NO CHANGE —
3. **Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.**

— NO CHANGE —
4. **Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.**

There are no water boats in the Port.

— NO CHANGE —

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## SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

1. **List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).**

**Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.**

The Port Manager, the Pilot Master and H.M. Customs are each supplied with a list of infected areas which is amended as necessary from the Ministry of Health Weekly Record.

2. **Radio Messages.**

- (a) **Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).**
- (b) **Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).**

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

— NO CHANGE —

3. **Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)).**

**Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.**

— NO CHANGE —

**4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).**

Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

— NO CHANGE —

**5. Arrangements for :—**

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox—see Section VII).
- (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts.
- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

— NO CHANGE —

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**SECTION VII—Smallpox**

**1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.**

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Laceby Smallpox Hospital.

**2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.**

Arrangements have been made with the Medical Officer of Health for Grimsby that in all cases of smallpox the Isolation Hospital, Laceby, will provide ambulances and crews consisting of specially trained and vaccinated teams of attendants.

**3. Names of smallpox consultants available.**

Dr. J. H. C. Clarke,	Dr. G. Nisbet,	Dr. J. Glen,
County Offices,	Bridge Street,	Springfield Hospital,
Sleaford.	Peterborough.	Scarthoe,
		Grimsby.

**4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.**

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor A. W. Downie, Bacteriology Department, School of Hygiene, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, 3.

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**SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease**

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

— NO CHANGE —



## SECTION IX—Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1954.

## SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

## SECTION XI—Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1954.

## SECTION XII—Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports

### 1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

### 2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester 10.

During the year 2 bodies were examined and reported as free from plague.

3. **Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.**

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

4. **Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.**

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Port Sanitary Officer.

**TABLE E**

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category	Number
Black rats .. .. .	Nil
Brown rats .. .. .	3
Species not known .. .. .	1
Sent for examination .. .. .	2
Infected with plague .. .. .	Nil

**TABLE F**

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons .. .. .	14
Ships from 301—1,000 tons .. .. .	9
Ships from 1,001—3,000 tons .. .. .	Nil
Total .. .. .	23

## SECTION XIII—Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G  
Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving Notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Defects of Original Construction	143	Nil	Nil	—
Structural Defects through wear and tear	145	Nil	4	3 remedied.
Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health	155	Nil	8	8 remedied.
Total ..	155	Nil	12	11 remedied.

## SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948

There are Mussel and Cockle Beds within the Area of the Port Health Authority in the Wash. These are periodically inspected and samples of the shell-fish are taken for analysis.

No action was necessary during the year 1954, either under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year 5 shipments of Danish mussels totalling 8,900 bags were landed. All consignments were accompanied by a certificate of purity and samples submitted for bacteriological examination were all satisfactory.

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## SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens

— NO CHANGE —

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## SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

— NO CHANGE —











LINCOLNSHIRE STANDARD.  
PRINTERS.  
MARKATE, BOSTON.